

international phase, as follows:

Claim 3, lines 1-2, delete "any previous claim" and substitute therefor --Claim 1--.

Claim 6, lines ~~1-2~~, delete "any previous claim" and substitute therefor --Claim 1--.

Claim 12, lines ~~1-2~~, delete "any previous claim" and substitute therefor --Claim 1--.

Claim 14, lines ~~1-2~~, delete "any previous claim" and substitute therefor --Claim 1--.

Claim 32, lines ~~1-2~~, delete "claims ~~30 and 31~~" and substitute therefor --Claim 30--.

Claim 33, lines 1-2, delete "any previous claim" and substitute therefor --Claim 1--.

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing preliminary amendments.

Claims 1-34 are pending in the above-identified patent application. No amendments were entered during the P.C.T. international phase. Claim 1 is presented in independent form.

By the present amendment, dependent Claims 6, 12, 14, 32 and 33 have been amended in order to remove the multiple dependencies therefrom. The application is now in condition for a full examination on the merits.

Accordingly, an early examination on the merits and allowance are, therefore, respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

D. GILLESPIE/F. STRANGES

By

  
Edwin D. Schindler  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 31,459

Five Hirsch Avenue  
P. O. Box 966  
Coram, New York 11727-0966

(631)474-5373

September 21, 2000